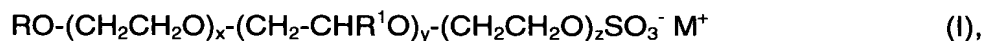


Abstract

5 The present invention relates to alkyl ether sulfate salts of the general formula I



where

10

R is an unbranched or branched C₈-C₁₈-alkyl radical or mixtures of different unbranched or branched C₈-C₁₈-alkyl radicals,

R¹ is an aliphatic radical selected from the group consisting of methyl and ethyl,

15 M⁺ is a cation, selected from the group consisting of alkali metals, NH₄⁺ and HNR₃²⁺,
where R² is selected from the group consisting of unbranched or branched alkyl radicals, CH₂CH₂OH and CH₂CH(OH)CH₃,

x has a mean value of 0-3,

y has a mean value of 1-10,

z has a mean value of 0-30,

20

and the quotient

$$25 \quad A = \frac{\text{cmc} (\text{RO}-(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_z\text{SO}_3^- \text{M}^+)}{\text{cmc} (\text{RO}-(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_x-(\text{CH}_2-\text{CHR}^1\text{O})_y-(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_z\text{SO}_3^- \text{M}^+)} \quad \text{is} > 1$$

and to their use as anion surfactant component in laundry detergents and cleaning compositions, in chemical engineering applications or in cosmetics formulations.